

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 03635 01 OF 02 282203Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SS-15
CCO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
INRE-00 PRS-01 DHA-02 SY-05 OPR-02 /064 W
-----282231 079641 /66

O O 282152Z FEB 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6023
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03635

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CASC, UG, GW, US
SUBJECT: UGANDA: OUTLOOK FOR WEDNESDAY MEETING WITH
AMERICAN CITIZENS

REF: BONN 3592

WE RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE (FRG NO. 87) FROM
AMBASSADOR ELLERKMANN IN KAMPALA AT 2045 ZULU 28
FEBRUARY.

BEGIN TEXT:

"1. RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS 28 FEB. AT 8 P.M.
BROUGHT NEWS THAT MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND
KING CHALID WERE DELIVERED TODAY TO AMIN THROUGH THEIR
RESPECTIVE AMBASSADORS. IN HIS ANSWERS AMIN SAID
FOLLOWING:

'- HE NEVER HAD INTENDED TO HARM AMERICANS,

- HE WAS GRATEFUL TO AMERICANS LIVING AND
WORKING IN UGANDA AS PILOTS, IN HOSPITALS,
SCHOOLS OR AS MISSIONARIES,

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PAGE 02 BONN 03635 01 OF 02 282203Z

- ESPECIALLY PILOTS HAD HELPED THROUGH
OIL CRISIS LAST YEAR WHEN THEY FLEW ESSENTIAL
COMMODITIES,

- AMERICANS LIVING IN UGANDA WERE HIS
BROTHERS AND SISTER,

- IT WERE THE AMERICANS WHO ASKED HIM TO
MEET HIM AS HE MET OTHER NATIONALS,

- PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER WAS TOO NEW AND YOUNG
IN OFFICE AND HAD MISINTERPRETED HIS
INTENTIONS AND THAT HE HAD NO EXPERIENCE
IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS,

- AMERICANS IN UGANDA WERE NOT UNDER
PRESIDENT CARTER'S BUT UNDER HIS COMMAND
AND THEY WERE FEELING ALLRIGHT.

2. ALSO SUDANESE SPECIAL ENVOY AND RWANDESE
CHARGE DELIVERED MESSAGES FROM THEIR HEADS OF STATE TO
AMIN. IT IS ASSUMED THAT CONTENTS OF THEIR MESSAGES
WAS ON BEHALF OF AMERICANS.

3. EARLIER AMIN SAW PERSONNEL OF UGANDA AIRLINES
INCLUDING AMERICANS. ALSO AT THIS OCCASION HE THANKED
AMERICANS FOR EXCELLENT WORK THEY HAD RENDERED TO
UGANDA. IT WAS SHOWN ON TV THAT AMIN SHOOK HANDS WITH
AMERICANS IN JOVIAL MOOD. AMIN INDICATED THAT AMERICAN
PILOTS MAY NOT BE PRESENT ON WEDNESDAY BECAUSE OF
'HEAVY DUTIES'.

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PAGE 01 BONN 03635 02 OF 02 282204Z
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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05
NSCE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 CCO-00 SY-05 OPR-02
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /064 W
-----282239 079657 /66

O O 282152Z FEB 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6024
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 03635

4. ALL NEWS TOGETHER TO ME LEAVE NO DOUBT THAT AMIN'S MEETING WITH AMERICANS ON WEDNESDAY WILL END FRIENDLY AND THAT HE MIGHT NOT EVEN SEND MISSIONARIES AWAY.

5. SENDING AWAY THE C-130 ON DUTY INDICATES THAT AMIN IS EMBARRASSED THAT HIS BOEING 707 AND HIS AMERICAN CHIEF PILOT UNTIL NOW HAVE NOT RETURNED TO UGANDA AND THAT HE WOULD NOT LIKE TO ADMIT BEFORE FOREIGN JOURNALISTS WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN UGANDA IN LARGE NUMBERS THAT HIS BOEING 707 AND HIS CHIEF PILOT PREFERRED TO STAY AWAY AND THAT WITHOUT AMERICAN CREWS THERE IS NO UGANDA AIRLINE. IT ALSO COULD BE THAT AMIN WANTS TO ATTEND FORTHCOMING ARAB-AFRICAN SUMMIT IN CAIRO AND NEEDS HIS AMERICAN CHIEF PILOT TO GET THERE, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS MOST UNLIKELY THAT AMIN WOULD DARE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AT THE MOMENT.

6. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THAT AMIN AGAIN MADE INSULTING REMARKS ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER I DO NOT THINK IT IS SECRET

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PAGE 02 BONN 03635 02 OF 02 282204Z

NECESSARY NOR APPROPRIATE ANYMORE THAT PRESIDENT CARTER SENDS PERSONAL MESSAGE OR SPECIAL ENVOY TO AMIN. IT SEEMS QUITE IMPOSSIBLE THAT AMIN AFTER HE HAS GIVEN WORD TO KING CHALID AND MOBUTU AND POSSIBLY TO NIMEIRY THAT NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO AMERICANS ON WEDNESDAY MEETING WITH AMERICANS WILL END OTHER WAY THAN FRIENDLY (SIC). HOWEVER, A IMMEDIATE AND OFFICIAL ASSURANCE FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT EITHER THROUGH UGANDAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OR OTHERWISE THAT NO MILITARY ACTION WAS OR IS INTENDED TOGETHER WITH A WORD OF SATISFACTION OR EVEN THANKS AT NEW DEVELOPMENT WOULD FURTHER EASE TENSION. ELLERKMANN"

END TEXT.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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